

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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January 8, 2004

To: Cultural Resources Work Group Participant

Subject: Cultural Resources Work Group December 2003 Update
Oroville Facilities Relicensing Program
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2100

The enclosed update of activities conducted during December is provided in lieu of the December 2003 Cultural Resources Work Group meeting.

After careful thought and consideration, the Department of Water Resources has decided to cancel the CRWG meeting scheduled for January 20, 2004. It is anticipated that more meaningful discussions of study plan progress and cross-resource coordination will be possible in February. As is customary, a monthly update of activities conducted during January will be supplied to participants in lieu of the meeting.

The next CRWG meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2004. Specific meeting time and location will be announced at a later date.

We are also posting this information on our Oroville Facilities Relicensing web site, <http://orovillereLICensing.water.ca.gov>. Please visit our web site for additional information on the Oroville Facilities Relicensing Program and related meetings.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 654-4422.

Sincerely,

Christina R.G. Acken, Senior Engineer, WR
Oroville Facilities Relicensing Program
State Water Project Analysis Office

Enclosure

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**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
RELICENSING OF THE OROVILLE FACILITIES
CULTURAL RESOURCES WORK GROUP
DECEMBER 2003 UPDATE**

This update of activities conducted during December is provided in lieu of the December 2003 Cultural Resources Work Group meeting.

The CRWG meeting tentatively scheduled for January 20, 2004 has been cancelled.

An update of activities conducted during January will be supplied in its place. The next CRWG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 17, 2004, at a location to be determined.

Study Plan C-2 Update

Evaluation of historic-era sites progressed through December 19, when field work was discontinued for the holidays. The program focused on the evaluation of gold-mining sites in the northern reaches of the reservoir, namely in Spring Valley Gulch and along the North Fork in the Big Bend area. A representative from the Konkow Valley Band of Maidu assisted in the Spring Valley Gulch effort to ensure that Native American artifacts in the area were left undisturbed. The Historical Resources Evaluation Plan calls for evaluation of approximately 35 sites, minimum. Fieldwork will continue throughout the winter, weather permitting.

Evaluation of historic structures, including the hydroelectric facility, and ethnographic sites is also underway.

Maidu Advisory Council Update

The Maidu Advisory Council met Wednesday, December 3, 2003. The agenda was brief. The group revised the Statement of Purpose, focusing on the Council's advisory role. Development of a resource action proposal for Stringtown Mountain was discussed, as well as the participation of Maidu monitors at sites with Native American components during ongoing evaluation fieldwork of historic-era sites.

A date for the January MAC meeting has not yet been confirmed.